

A Seasonable

ADMONITION

TO A

GREAT MAN.

In a LETTER to Himself.

Si, Pergama Dextrâ—

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. ROBERTS, near the Oxford-
Arms in Warwick-Lane. MDCCXLI,

Price Sixpence,

ADMINISTRATION

TO

GREAT MAN

IN THE OFFICE OF THE

BOARD OF

MANAGEMENT

OF THE

OF THE

SIR,

I Shall begin without an Apology, and, if I can, end without a Compliment; because the former is unnecessary, and the latter, in the Opinion of many, undeserved. I have been often surprized, and at a loss how to account for it, that any Man can look at you with Envy, who in my Apprehension art the most pitiable Object in this Island. To be surrounded with none but Foes or Flatterers, with such as have either lost their Sight, or see double, is truly a most unfortunate Case, and draws after it such a Train of Evils, as would make any Man but yourself miserable, and be his undoing in spite of his Prudence. The Latter will in no Case speak the whole Truth, and the Former are in every Case sure to speak more than the Truth: If there be a tender or sore Part, Fear of offending makes the one pass it over; and

a Desire to irritate and vex, makes the other probe deeper than is necessary for the Cure: The one quarrels with you for every thing, and the other will scarce quarrel with you for any thing. Hence you are blam'd, when perhaps you deserve most Praise; and sometimes commended, when you deserve Reprehension; and each spend their Zeal to do by you, as it is thought you have already done by three fourths of the People of *Britain*, to put our your Eyes: In which Case, if you neither blunder nor bungle, stumble nor go astray, never step too far, nor too wide, always take a sure Aim, hit your Mark, and come off with Honour and Success, you are a Miracle of Nature; the most sagacious, penetrating, prudent, wise, wonderful Man that ever liv'd.

But this, Sir, by the bye. I have no Intent to act the Part either of a Libeller or Panegyrist, but only of a Monitor and Friend; and for this I am as well qualified as any Man in *Britain*, having luckily preserved, what I think most Men have lost, both the Inclination and Capacity of seeing and speaking the Truth. I am neither *Craftsman* nor *Gazetteer*, nor in any Disposition to treat you either with Enmity or Adulation. I neither, like the former, envy your Power, nor dread your Contempt; nor, like the latter, rejoice in your Favour, and batten in your Smiles.

How

How long this may be my Case, I don't presume to say; only remember what you have often experienc'd, that there are Tempers which are never to be reclaimed, neither to be abashed by Shame, nor dispirited by Disappointment; whose Courage grows with their Crimes; and however often foiled and thrown, yet if suffered to rise, return to the Combat with redoubled Rage, tho' less Strength, resolved to destroy or be destroyed; and if I have any latent Spark of Enmity in me, it may yet rise into a Storm: If I miss my Aim, I may change my Temper, assume a new Character, and endeavour to do you Mischief.

Like a wise Man, I answer only for the present. I am in Temper now, and in consequence of that, going to perform the most friendly Office in the World, *viz.* to expostulate with you upon such Parts of your Conduct, as seem to me most offensive and blameable; not but that there may be other Instances which equally deserve Reprehension, but that my Case is, in those I know not how far you may be provided with a proper Defence; and I chuse rather to confess my Ignorance, than (as many before me have done) draw upon myself the just Imputation of Slander and Malice. In short, Sir, whilst I attack your Character, I am bent upon shewing some Regard to my own; which is
a Conduct,

a Conduct, you will say, a little uncommon.
v. g. If I should take upon me to ask, Why
 you have not long since burned, ravaged and
 destroyed all the Towns, Cities and Villages
 on the Coast of *Spain*, and blown into the
 Air all the Castles, Forts and Fortifications
 in the *West-Indies*? Why you have suffer'd
 any Ship to sail upon the Ocean, but what
 carries *English* Colours? And why the Mines
 of *Mexico* and *Peru* have not long since been
 rolled up the *Thames*? Why you have not
 employed some of your Footmen to kick that
 haughty *Italian* Madam at *Madrid*; or you
 yourself have not taken the Cardinal at *Paris*
 by the Nose, and broken his Spectacles?
 With several other Facts, (which many pre-
 tend to say you might and ought to have
 done) and which had certainly indicated
 your Strength, Valour and Activity. In such
 Case you might perhaps silyly retort upon me,
 and ask, *Cui bono*? Where wou'd be the
 Advantage of such Exploits, supposing them
 possible; and may be add with a Sneer, that
 such were easier said than done. And as I might
 be at a loss for a Reply, so for want of that
 Modesty, which is the true Characteristick of
 a modern Patriot, I might blush and look
 sheepish. Such Topicks therefore, where
 much may be said on both Sides, I leave to
 those renowned Heroes, S——, P——,
 C——, whose Pens have so often discol-
 oured Truth, and their Tongues blacken'd
 the

the best of Characters; whose Throats roar louder than three Demi-Culverins; who speak at *Whitehall* so as to be heard at *Madrid*, and thereby cheer the Hearts, and strengthen the Hands of those whom they call upon you to destroy.

In the way I take, you will have little to urge or answer in your own Defence; for I will draw up my Indictment so, as will force you to plead guilty as soon as you hear it read. Then you will have no Refuge, but to submit to Mercy, and promise Amendment, in hopes of Pardon. And thus when I have humbled your proud Heart, and wrested the long-envied Power out of your Hands, as I shall have the Glory of doing that, which neither fair nor foul Means have yet been able to effectuate, I shall be entitl'd to the Praise of my Countrymen; and the consequent Satisfaction I shall feel in myself, will be a greater Reward than a Mitre on my Head, or a Star and Garter on my Breast: which from the Authority of my honourable Friend *W—P—*, I am free to assert, *no Man ever wore, who was the Friend of his Country, or meant its Interest.*

In the common Process against Criminals, the Way is to put themselves upon God and their Country; and because both are joined
in

in the same Form, they are apt to flatter, that when they are acquitted by one, they are so by the other. You have, it is true, stood Trial by the latter, and been acquitted, (for which Reason, I suspect the Prosecution was very weakly and unskilfully manag'd) and you may plead, you can't be fairly twice arraigned for the same Facts. It is true; but still I must remind you, that the former may condemn when the latter acquits; for a Man may be guilty when it can't be proved against him, and in that Case the Sentence is only deferred and the Punishment put off. In short, Sir, my Design is to speak to your Conscience, by that Means to drive you into Conviction, and so to Repentance; for this Reason, that I see no other possible Method to come at you. Hence it is, that I have summoned you to a Bar, where the Evidence will be impartially scanned; where the Arts of Shuffling and Evasion will be of no Use; where you will have equal Justice, and a fair Hearing, no Clamour nor Outrage of Faction will be heard, no *Trots*, *Oldcastles* nor *Craftsmen* to interrupt the Hearing, nor any one to draw up or sign a Protest.

Now then imagine yourself at this Bar, the Books opened and the Judgment set, and see what you can answer to the following Charge:

(1.) *Why,*

(1.) *Why, in Contradiction to the known Customs and Usages of this Realm, you have, in Despite of all Opposition, maintained your Post, and held the highest Offices and Employments so long, together with your Prince's Favour; to the great Disquietude and Detriment of Numbers of your Fellow-Subjects and Countrymen, who boast superior Merit and Capacity, and having declared themselves willing to take their Turn, have, therefore, as good a Right to serve in the same?*

To this you will, perhaps, plead, that you meant no Harm, and that you have done nothing in this Case, but what any Man, even they who complain most, would do as well as you if they could. It may be so; but this won't excuse you; for the Malignity of it lies in your having done that which you had no Right to do. If you have detained and usurped upon my Property for almost an Age, is it sufficient, think you, in your Vindication, to tell me, that *W. P.* would have done the same or worse, had he known how to come at it? Besides, it is here set forth as contrary to Usage and Custom; and Custom you know is Law, and whatever is contrary to Usage, is illegal and punishable. Now, to vindicate yourself to any Purpose, shew that

B

what

what you are here charged with, was ever done by any Man before you; produce but a single Instance of any Thing like it in the History of this Kingdom, and you shall be heard: But in all my Reading there is nothing that comes near it, and I am confident the like was never known or heard of before. In the Case of my Lord *Burleigh* there is nothing of a piece with it; and since, in so many other Things, you affect a Parallel between his Character and your own, methinks you had acted more consistently by not receding from it in so material a Point. It is true he ended his Days in his Prince's Favour, and to compleat the Parallel, you may think it necessary for you to do the same. That, Sir, was his good Fortune; but Fortune is not to be trusted to at all Times. Besides, he only depended upon his Prince's Favour; his Safety lay in approving his Conduct to her liking. Whatever some may boast of the Age and Hoariness of our Constitution, Parliaments were not so considerable, nor Factions so dreadful then as now; neither does it appear, that ever he was called upon in that publick solemn Manner in which it has been demanded of you to *lay down*. He had no such Rivals nor Competitors for Power, neither such crafty Heads, nor voluble Tongues to teaze his Mistress or intimidate himself. She had the Art of keeping every aspiring, turbulent Genius

nius under. But now, if a Man of that Character arises, a Prince or a Minister have no Way to secure themselves, but that known Trick of Housebreakers with Mastiffs, to throw them a Sop or a Bone to keep them from barking; tho' you are so insolent as hardly to stoop even to this harmless Device. Neither, Sir, is it likely, but that a Man who is said to have given Grace to all his other good Qualities by his Modesty, would have quietly withdrawn, had it been demanded of him, and yielded to the superior Merit of his Rivals, had there been a *P*—— or a *C*—— to have disputed it with him. In that happy Age, he that was loudest in his Pretences to Patriotism, and shewed the greatest Forwardness to controul his Prince, thwart his Humour, embarrass his Councils, blast his Measures, and abuse his Servants when he meant to abuse himself, had certainly carried off the Honour of the Day, and a Series of successful Services could never have prevented a Minister's Disgrace. In vain would he have pleaded, that his Prince was pleased, and all was well ordered and easy, approved and ratified by Parliament, whilst there was one ambitious Man in the Kingdom out of Humour. Ministers have hitherto been the May-games of Fortune, the Foot-balls of Caprice and Wantonness; raised by Whores, and depressed by Mobs; the Instruments of Weakness and Wickedness; hardly the stout-

est and strongest of them could stand their ground through more than three or four Sessions of Parliament. But You, Sir, You have — I blush to say what you have done, and suffered, and bore in this respect; and even your greatest Enemies, though you think they have no Compassion for you, are sorry for you upon this Account.

Moreover, you are to consider what Fretting and Vexation this Part of your Conduct has given to others; what Inappetence at Meals, and Indigestion after them; what unseasonable Watching, and Loss of Rest; what carking Care, and anxious Sollicitude; what Smiles it has banished, and Wrinkles brought on the Forheads of those, who, though they have given the World full Proof that they are willing to do any thing, and say any thing, in order to come at them, yet are hereby precluded from sharing in the Honours and Profits of their Country. Consider again, that you are hereby the real and true Author of all the wicked Schemes, Plots and Machinations that have been laid and contrived to embarrass and embroil the Government; and of all that factious Cant, and those innumerable seditious Libels, which swarm from the Press, and plague both Court and Country. Surely you are not so harden'd, as to make sport of these things: Nor so vain, as to

to imagine yourself the only Man in *England* qualified for this Post: Nor so presumptuous, as to plead that this Objection is any Proof either of your Ability or Uprightness. You may remember, that it was the general Opinion, after the Change of the Ministry in the Queen's Time, that there were hundreds of Men in *England*, who were capable of doing the same things which the Duke of *Marlborough* did, with the same Support and Assistances. For thus they argued, Never Troops were better paid, *Godolphin* was Treasurer, &c. And an Opinion of the same Nature begins to prevail with regard to you now. Money, Sir, is the Sinews of Council, as well as War, and the Life of all Exploits: the *Treasury*, I say the *Treasury*. Don't fancy yourself the only Man in your Country, who knows the Use of Money, or how to apply it; for most Men are Masters of the Theory; and I will take upon me to say, that a little Practice would make P—— as good a Proficient as yourself. So that every way you stand condemned, both as ill-natur'd to your Neighbours, a Disturber of the publick Quiet, and a pert and haughty Assumer.

But farther, your Conduct is not only injurious and without Precedent, but it is likewise a Blot in the Scheme of Government, and contradictory to every good Plan that hath

hath ever been proposed. If you have read the *Oceana* of *Harrington*, you can't be insensible of the Advantages of a *Rotation*; and indeed it is but fair, that others should take their Turn with you, and not be lingering under a heartless Expectation until you resign your Breath. Put yourself but one weary Day in their place, and I dare say you will soon be of my Opinion. And pray, Sir, are you not to do by others, as you would have them do by you, supposing a Change of Circumstances? In the Commonwealth too of *Israel*, the whole People, you know, came up, and returned in their Courses so many out of each Tribe, both for the Service of the Sanctuary and State. And this you'll allow, whatever you may think of the other, is a Model that ought to be followed by all the States and Kingdoms upon Earth, since it goes near to Impiety to say there can be a better. And to speak my Mind freely, whilst there is so little Resemblance betwixt it and our own, I think we might be more sparing of our Encomiums on the Beauty, Excellency and Perfection of our Constitution.

You have heard then the Reasons upon which this first Article of your Charge is grounded: Would you know now how to atone and make amends for all? I will tell you in one word: **RESIGN.** Do this, and
I will

I will answer for all the Malecontents in the Kingdom, that they shall heartily join in a Vote of *Credit* to you. Hold, Sir; don't mistake me: I only mean, that they will allow you to go off with the Credit of having served your Prince and your Country faithfully, if you can but be content to do so no more; if not, you will have the Shame of being forced to it at last, when you can hold it no longer: For let me tell you, *Mors ultima Linea Rerum est*. But thus you will have the Glory of doing that, which no Art, without your own Concurrence, could effectuate; and cheering the Hearts of thousands, especially our *Chieftains*, who now lie bewailing their own sad Haps, and have no other main Quarrel with you. This therefore I leave you to consider, whilst I am drawing up the second Article of your Charge.—

(2.) *Why you, after being so often admonished, importuned, and threatned, have so shamefully abandoned and counter-acted the Principles of the Revolution, by resolutely standing out, and refusing to concur with such as have honestly and industriously endeavour'd to bring about another. When it is at the same time notorious to all the World, that there is no other possible Method to secure our Religion and Liberties, and to prevent Misery and Slavery from being entailed on Posterity?*

This,

This, Sir, is in itself a Charge of a very high Nature; but when put to your Account, is highly aggravated by its being a shameful Prevarication: Because, as it is notorious that you were once a zealous and warm Defender of the Revolution, and Revolution Principles; so now it is equally notorious, that you have shamefully and wickedly abandon'd them, by opposing every Step taken in this grand Affair; baffling every Scheme, and rejecting every Motion and Proposition which carried the most distant Suspicion of such a Design; or that, in its remotest Consequences, cou'd be consider'd as leading that way. This might be proved by a long Détail of Particulars; but I shall mention only two: Your Opposition to the *Place-Bill*, and a Project once formed to make the *Army* independent both of the Crown and Parliament: Two, not only the most innocent, harmless Things, but even the most beneficial to, and perfective of our Constitution, that were ever devised, or brought before you. For, Sir, the great Fault of our Constitution is plainly this, That its Powers are neither independent one of another, nor divided into Parts and Branches enough. Now, Sir, a *Fourth* Power added to the Three we have, which shou'd at the same time be independent of all the rest, would give it the last finishing Stroke, and raise

raise it to the utmost Perfection it is capable of.

What is there then that you can plead in your own Defence? To say these things were done through Ignorance will not do; because every School-boy now knows, at least every one who has read the elaborate Lucubrations of the *Craftsman*, that the great, the principal End and Intent of the Revolution was to open and make easy a way to succeeding Revolutions, as often as they should be demanded, or thought necessary; whence it is a clear Point, that by opposing a Revolution now, you act contrary to the Principles of the Revolution. You may think to break the Force of this Argument by telling us, that you apprehended the principal Design of the Revolution was to fix a proper Balance between the Powers in the Constitution, which until that time had never been equally poised, and to settle the Government upon such a firm and solid Basis, as might prevent our ever falling again into such Circumstances, as might make another necessary. But to this we answer, that you are quite mistaken; and your Mistake I attribute to your not distinguishing between the *Letter* and the *Spirit* * of the Constitution. Now you are Divine enough,

C

I pre-

* See the Ded. to the Dissert. on Parties.

I presume, to know that *the Letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth Life*. If we follow the former, we shall be soon in a fine way: Go no farther, and we shall never have the true Meaning of any Law, Rite, Institution, Book, or Testament. If you died, and made your Will, (which I can hardly mention without going to my Prayers) and your Heirs fell out about the Division of your Substance, what Course, think you, would a Judge in Equity take to decide between them? Wou'd he not construe this Will of yours in such a way, as upon the whole seemed to him most agreeable to the Intention of the Devisor? Now the Case of all publick Acts and Records is exactly the same. For Instance: In *Magna Charta* I find these Words: *Nous Voulons estre Co, & otrions que totes les autres Citez, & Li Bore, & Les Viles, & Li Port aient en totes les Franchises, & lor franchises Costumes*. But whatever is the *English* of these Words, it is certain the Design of the Devisor was widely different, since it is well known King *John* never had it in his Intention to make such a Grant; and it was not till after repeated Struggles, and being reduced to the lowest Ebb of Fortune, that he was compelled to it.

In this way then of computing, the Design of the *Revolution* might be widely different from

from what it hath ever yet appear'd ; which hath been largely demonstrated by our best Writers in Politicks, as far as a Multiplicity of fine Words can do it. This therefore is sufficient to be said to the first Part of the Charge, to convict you of prevaricating by abandoning the Principles of the *Revolution* ; to which nevertheless you and your Master owe all your present Greatness, and the best Part of your Fortunes.

It remains therefore only to shew, that a *Revolution* is now necessary.

To make the Course of the Evidence as short as possible, I will only ask you a few Questions : What King of *England* ever had so large a Provision for the Support of his Household, or so prudently managed what he has ? Since the Conquest name me one, whose Coffers were ever so full ? Which of our Princes had ever a more powerful Armament at Sea, or a finer Army at Land ? King *James*, poor Man, bad as he was, had nothing like it, and was therefore no way so dreadful ; at least need not have been ; because though he paid Both himself, he had neither the Affections of one, nor the other ; whereas Both are at the Devotion of his present Majesty. Which single Circumstance is sufficient to rouze the Fears of any Man, whose Senses

are not benumb'd, and his Passions quite asleep. Why? Because this puts it into his Power to perpetrate any Mischief that comes into his Head: But without this, you know how little Fleets and Armies are to be depended upon. Besides, the very *Parliament* is under the same blind Infatuation; and, I know not by what fatal Impulse, seem to be hurrying on to their own and their Country's Ruin. You see what Amity and good Understanding subsists between them; and I suspect you have some hand in it. They never refuse him any thing he asks: But the other Day a Vote of *Credit* again. And what is all this for, but to enable him to buy up all the Land, that we may be his Servants; and all this in open Contradiction to the express *Charge* of great Numbers, whose Deputies only they are? To this purpose you may remember, what *Instructions* were transmitted from several Grand Juries and Corporations last Session. I warrant you, they were well nigh a score; all freely too and voluntarily, from Conviction of our growing Danger; without any Pains taken on our part to procure them, or any such indirect, under-hand Management, as is usual with Factions.

Now, Sir, where the Danger the Constitution is in, is so imminent and apparent, both from the Wealth and Power of the Prince,
and

the blind Zeal and Devotion of his Subjects; what Man, who hath the least Regard for his Prince or his Country, will not conclude, that a *Revolution* is necessary, and concur in bringing it about? The Premises duly consider'd, I must think him an Enemy to both, who by any Conduct or Management shou'd stand in the way of it. Moreover, Sir, don't you see the flourishing Estate of the *Hierarchy*? Hath not his Majesty too declared, that he is determin'd to support the *Established Church* in all its just Rights and Privileges? And doth this bode no Evil to us? Away with you: I have no longer Temper; for it is a Jest to tell me, that any thing can be done, that we can ever be safe, or our Humours have their Swing, whilst these *Pye-bald Gentry*, like so many *Mordecais*, are in the Gate.

Talk not to us, Sir, (however you may pride yourself in it) of Fidelity to your Master, or of an Obligation to support the Rights of the Crown in Conjunction with those of the People; neither tell us, that *Law* is the Measure both of Duty and Right. Give us none of your Cant about *Allegiance*, *Oaths*, *Compacts*, and *Terms of Submission*: These Things will not go down now-a-days; LIBERTY, Sir, LIBERTY, I say, in its widest Extent, is what we want, and will have,

have, cost what it will. The Terms, you are to know, are of our own making, and we may alter or add to them as we please; and however we take away the old or substitute new ones, though the Prince is bound, still we are free. It is by our Voices and Humours, however fluctuating and inconstant, that he reigns; and it were an Indignity to any *Briton* to be bound by Terms but of his own chusing. How then, Sir, Did we make them? No! it was our Fathers Act and not ours; therefore we cannot be bound. Besides, Have the Conditions never been broke through? Was not — the poor Printer prosecuted for a seditious Libel? And how did the poor Man suffer? If such Things do not portend Misery and Slavery to us, I pray you, what doth? A poor Man imprisoned and fined only for *speaking Evil of Dignities*, and uttering *Falshoods*. Why! the Bishops in King *James's* Days came better off; and God knows, which of their Crimes were greatest. Oh, for the Pen and Virulence of a *Craftsman*! here would I give thee such a mortal Stab, that you should never rise and recover to answer our Leader again.

Well, Sir, I see you begin to truckle. I told you before, upon what Conditions you may expect Pardon. Don't imagine that we strike at your Life, or thirst for your Blood:
For,

For, alas, Sir! what is your Life? Or what Profit in your Blood? No; it is your *Power!* your *Grandeur!* your *Robes!* your *Place!* Lay down the one, and put off the other, and all may yet be well. *P——y* will forgive all, and take you by the Hand, and call you the Friend of your Country, the Moment he sees you stripped and quiet, and himself in your Place. Although he hath fought some Duels, and vaunts and bullies now and then, he is no ill-condition'd Man when the angry Fit is off him. If therefore you have any Spark of Benevolence left; if you have any Sense of the Pleasure which results from doing a kind and friendly thing; you will do something for Peace sake, to gratify a Man, who so well deserves it at your hands; and to whom you are more beholden, than to all the Men in *Britain*; since he may truly say to you, as *Caractacus* did to *Cæsar*, *If I had made no Opposition, you had lost the Glory of so remarkable a Victory.* To him you are indebted for the Triumphs of your Wit and Fame; that you are this Day placed out of the Reach of Malice, and reconciled to the Devotion of Multitudes, who not long since detested your Name. Some Requital therefore, methinks, is due in Gratitude for so many Services. And so I go on to the third and last Article of your Charge:

(3.) *Why,*

(3.) *Why, in Contradiction to all sound Politicks, and the known Rights of War, you still wait for a lawful Occasion before you declare; pretending, that Treaties are to be observed, and Faith kept even with Enemies, and though with some Loss and Inconvenience to ourselves?*

Now was I ever so well disposed to pass over all the other Parts of your Conduct, yet could I never excuse you for this; there is so much insufferable Pride and canting Hypocrisy in the Pretence. You wou'd raise, I suppose, a Character to yourself for *Honesty* and *Religion*: Very fine! and at the same time set up for a *Politician*: Reconcile these two, & *eris mihi magnus Apollo*. If Divines should talk to us in this way, we know how to understand them: It is their *Trade*, and we should allow them to cant on. But for a *Prime Minister*, and one that sets up for *Arbiter* of the Affairs of *Europe*, it is intolerable. No, Sir; if you mean to arbitrate to purpose, you must do it Sword in Hand: The mild Methods of *Treaty* and *Negotiation* will never do. You say *Politicks* presuppose *Ethicks*; so indeed too say *Grotius* and *Puffendorf*. But it is no wonder you blunder and bungle so often, if you take these clumsy *Dutchmen* for your Guides. Had you gone to *Italy*, which
from

from *Cæsar's* to *Machiavel's* Time has ever been the most refined School of Politicks in *Europe*, you had been a better Master in your Trade. There you would have learned, " * That no Prince can, or ought to keep his Faith, when it would be for his own, or his People's Disadvantage." This, Sir, is the Way to Empire and Greatness; and if you had sincerely intended either, him you would have followed. *Salus Populi suprema Lex*, is the first Article of our political Creed: But how it can be proved and made out, if Faith, and the Punctilio's of Honour, may bar us from pursuing it, I am not able to apprehend. Conscience ever was and will be the Cloak of Cowardise; for which Reason the Brave and the Valiant have ever despised it. In your Case, a prudent Man, if an Occasion was wanting, would have made one, and not have waited until it offer'd, and pressed itself upon him. The way to deal with an Enemy is to take him unawares, whilst he is unprovided; and never to say a word of your Intention, until he feels the Stroke: You are to act the Fox and the Lion at once, &c. Whilst Messieurs *Keene* and *D. Castres* were negotiating at *Madrid*, *Vernon* and *Ogle* shou'd have been thund'ring their Cannon in the *West-Indies*; and *Haddock* too might have

D

given

given the saucy Madam a Fit of the Mother. Thus you might have vindicated your own, and the Nation's Honour. For thus had you taken us at our Words, and gone to work when we called upon you, we had chearfully joined Hands to help you: But now! see what will come of it; for ~~he~~ *that will not when he may*. Now you may fight your Battels by yourself for us: Not a Man of us will stir an Inch, or strike a Stroke in your behalf. You talk of vindicating your Honour, and retrieving all by one decisive Blow: But you'll find it will cost you more Blows than one; and depend upon it, not a Method shall be left, nor Art untried, to perplex and distress you. See how your Fleets are to be mann'd: Send out your *Press-gangs*, do: You'll be little the better; for the People have all got their Lesson, and know how to keep out of your way; and Sir J. N. may loiter as long for want of Hands, as he did before for want of Winds. This for his Speech: but let him speech and vote on; he will find few Seamen to *Register*. In sum, Sir, to be plain with you, one way or other we will pull you down, and put it out of your Master's Power to protect you, unless he will be content to sell his Kingdom to save you. For if he is resolved, so are we: and as a noble L—— had lately the Courage and Virtue to say almost within his hearing, "If Legal Means will not do, we

“we will begin to think of some other Method of preserving our Constitution; WHICH may prove of dangerous Consequence to the Illustrious Family now upon our Throne.” Ah, Sir! Heard you that WHICH? so big with Meaning. Have you consider’d where you are? Have you no Dread of the Consequence? when we tell you so plainly what it is to be. For my own part, I shudder and start at the Sound of those indeed daring, but honest Words. They came, I’ll answer, from the Heart; and, no doubt, his Hands are as ready as his Tongue. Oh! for *fifty thousand* such Spirits to back us; and this Year should be for ever consecrated a double *Æra* in the Annals of this Kingdom. Remember *Caiaphas’s* Advice.

I need not, I presume, take up Time in hearing what you have to answer in your own Defence; it would be only to repeat what you have already told us in your Speeches; which, whoever is so stupid as to want Satisfaction in so clear a Point, may consult at Leisure, as they are in every body’s Hands; though, for the good of the Nation, which depends so much on Peoples being blindfolded at present, I heartily wish, were all burned and destroyed: For, indeed, you have a knack of throwing out shrewd plausible Things sometimes; and I have heard of some so weak as to

be convinced by them; they carry the Air and Appearance of Truth and Argument; but when strictly scanned in the Way that the *Craftsman* takes with them, and I have taken in this Paragraph, They do not, you see, stand the Test.

I have now gone thro' the several Heads of your Charge; and you must be sensible, that I have treated you with more Tenderness and Decorum, than you had Reason to expect, or have ever been used to. Had I been disposed to aggravate Matters to your Ruin, I might have swelled the Charge by a long Detail of Particulars: such as your Pretences to Philosophy, as well as Religion, by despising the Acclamations and Censures of the *Multitude* without doors, whom you insultingly call a *Mob*: And resting upon the Approbation of the considerate impartial *Majority* within; the haughty Neglect with which you treat your Rivals and Betters; and affecting to be called the *English Cicero*, and at the same Time trapped in speaking *bad Latin*; *cum multis aliis*, equally evictive of your Pride, Insolence and Ignorance. But as these Things have, in part, been spoken to by a better Hand, and that I have Reason to believe they will be all considered in their Turn, and that my Design is not to ruin, but to save and reform you, I forbear.

How

How then, say you, Sir: Are you resolved
to quit and lay down, or not? Answ. Not.
Then hear your Sentence: " You shall be led
" hence to the Place of Execution, your
" Grave: You shall tread upon Scorpions;
" Briars, Thorns and Thistles shall be in your
" way: Your Troubles shall be multiplied,
" and Care and Distraction for ever surround
" you: Libels and Lampoons shall gall you
" on every Side; and the Ghost of W——
" P—— shall haunt you when he is dead:
" We will drink to your Confusion every
" Day; and in our Hearts even curse the
" —— for your sake. This shall be your
" Portion all the Days of your Life; and
" when you are laid in your Grave, on your
" Tomb-stone shall be written,

*Here lies WALPOLE! now freed from factious
Strife,*

Who bore thro' all triumphantly in Life.

Wise, Eloquent, and Just, without an End,

*But how to serve his Country, Prince, and
Friend.*

A Lesson fair! to each succeeding Age,

What Men must be, who combat factious Rage:

What Courage, Temper, Prudence must combine;

What Candor, Truth, in ev'ry Word must shine.

These were the Props on which he built his Pow'r:

Firm and unshaken to his Life's last Hour.

For

For this, malign'd by all the envious Throng,
He held his Power and his Post too long.

Forgive him this, the only Guilt he knew,

Malignant Malice owns it now his Due.

For him Britannia now is seen to mourn,

And her best Sons weep daily round his Urn.

I profess myself quite tir'd with using so
many Words to no purpose; so God have
mercy on you.

I am, without a Compliment,

Yours, &c.

P. B.